

IT Program Assessment NPPD- Critical Infrastructure Technology and Analysis (CITA) Program (2011)

Review

The DHS CIO conducted a comprehensive program review of the NPPD- Critical Infrastructure Technology and Analysis (CITA) program on June 17, 2010. In December 2009, the NPPD requested that the Office of Infrastructure Protection (IP) consolidate several infrastructure technology and analysis projects. These projects' interdependent missions cover infrastructure data collection, data management, and analysis. In addition, the projects require input and support from one another in order to fulfill their respective missions. The CITA program centralizes technology and data management within IP. The goals of the program are to deploy a standards-based technical framework that provides IP and its customers with a single, integrated gateway to collect, manage, protect, and share authoritative infrastructure data and analytical products as well as to create and share risk-informed analytical products that influence customer risk reduction and infrastructure situational awareness.

Major findings from the review include the following:

- Program data is submitted voluntarily by the customer base as opposed to the NPPD- Chemical Security Assessment Tool (CSAT) where chemical information compliance is mandated.
- Within the CITA, information moving from Classified to Unclassified environments, and vice versa, is controlled manually to ensure security protections are maintained.
- Only a few months removed from program initiation, the Program Management Office (PMO) is still very much in the strategic planning stages, and will report back the DHS CIO at the end of Fiscal Year 2010 with a more complete plan for the evolution of the CITA technical architecture and discussion of the overall CITA program integration strategy, with the objective of providing assurance that the program's integration and technical risk is understood and being effectively managed.

Assessment

NPPD- CITA is a viable program with providing tremendous benefit to Public and Private sectors alike. Providing critical infrastructure data integrity and security will strengthen mission effectiveness and potentially provide for resource efficiency opportunities. The program will continue to be monitored closely and supported when and where applicable as further planning, development and deployment take shape.

Score: 4